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NSWC INDIAN HEAD  
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LETTER AND COMMENTS FROM U S EPA REGION III REGARDING FIVE-YEAR CERCLA  
REVIEW NSWC INDIAN HEAD MD (PUBLIC DOCUMENT)  
9/17/2012  
U S EPA REGION III



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

Commander  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
Mr. Nate Delong  
Washington Navy Yard Bldg. 212  
1314 Harwood St. S.E.  
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 29374-5018

SEP 27 2012

Subject: Five-Year CERCLA Review Naval Support Facility Indian Head

Dear Mr. Delong,

Thank you for submitting the Five-Year Review report entitled: Five-Year Review Report, Naval Support Facility Indian Head, Indian Head, Maryland.

As you know, Section 121 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), requires that remedial actions which result in any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants remaining at a site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure be subject to a five-year review (5YR). The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) submitted a draft-final 5YR for the Naval Support Facility Indian Head to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) dated July, 2012.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the EPA's response to NAVFAC's July, 2012 report. In accordance with EPA's June 2001 5YR guidance, and based upon the August 1, 2011 Memorandum entitled "Program Priorities for Federal Facility Five-Year Review," EPA can make an independent protectiveness determination if adequate information is available in the report to evaluate the implementation and performance of the remedy. Thus EPA expects that NAVFAC will submit a final signed report to EPA after reviewing and addressing EPA's comments as set forth in other correspondence.

There are currently two Operable Units (OUs) at Indian Head that require a 5YR protectiveness determination and are therefore addressed in this 5YR. These OUs are listed below for documentation purposes, along with a discussion of any issues EPA has identified that need to be addressed.

**OU- 02: Site 12 – Town Gut landfill.**

Issues: None.

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions: None

Protectiveness Statement that will be reported to Congress: The remedy at OU-01 remains protective of human health and the environment.

Remedial action objectives specified in the ROD have been met. The landfill cover prevents exposure to contaminated soil and land use controls prevent exposure to contaminants in shallow groundwater. Long-term monitoring is conducted to confirm that migration of contaminants from the site has not occurred.

**OU- 05: Site 42 – Olsen Road Landfill.**

Issues: Elevated levels of trichloroethene have been detected in wells MW-12 and MW-10 along the periphery of the landfill.

Recommendations and Follow-up Actions: EPA and the Navy have agreed that sampling of down gradient wells should be conducted and the installation of one or more additional side-gradient wells are necessary to ensure that contaminated groundwater is not migrating from the site. The Navy will develop a work plan to specify what additional efforts will be conducted. This plan will be submitted to the EPA for review and concurrence within six months of the date of this letter.

Protectiveness Statement that will be reported to Congress: The remedy at OU-01 remains protective of human health and the environment.

Remedial action objectives specified in the ROD have been met. The engineered cap prevents exposure to contaminated soil. Land use controls prevent exposure to contaminants in shallow groundwater. Long-term monitoring is conducted to confirm that migration of contaminants from the site has not occurred.

EPA concurs with the NAVFAC protectiveness statements for the above OUs while recognizing the need for additional sampling at the Olsen Road Landfill site. Furthermore, as a part of this Five Year review, EPA has evaluated the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) measures for this site and determined their status as follows:

Environmental Indicators

Human Health: Current Human Exposure Controlled

Groundwater Migration: Under control.

Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use

The site is not Site-Wide Ready for Anticipated Use.

The next Five Year Review is due five years from the date of this letter.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Hirsh, Acting Chief of the NPL/BRAC Federal Facilities Branch at 215-814-3351 or Dennis Orenshaw at 215-814-3361.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald J. Borsellino", is written over a faint, circular official seal.

Ronald J. Borsellino, Director  
Hazardous Site Cleanup Division

cc: Curtis DeTore, Maryland Department of the Environment